

**25****Notes**

## BHOLI

*A little girl Bholi fails to develop self confidence due to her parental attitude. Read the lesson and find out, how?*



### OBJECTIVES

At the end of the lesson, you will be able to:

- explain the importance of emotional security and family support for children;
- indicate the need of love, encouragement and education for the disabled to fight against their odds;
- demonstrate the use of simple past and past perfect tense in speech and writing.
- use appropriate form of words in context.

#### 25.1 SECTION I

*From her very childhood Bholi was a little slow. She had smallpox marks on her face and she stammered. Why did her teacher take special interest in her? Did Bholi measure up to her teacher's expectations?*

Her name was Sulekha, but since her childhood everyone had been calling her Bholi, the simpleton.

She was the fourth daughter of *Numberdar* Ramlal. When she was ten months old, she had fallen off the cot on her head and perhaps it had damaged some part of her brain. That was why she remained a backward child and came to be known as Bholi, the simpleton.



## Notes

At birth, the child was very fair and pretty. But when she was two years old, she had an attack of small-pox. Only the eyes were saved, but the entire body was permanently disfigured by deep black pock-marks. Little Sulekha could not speak till she was five, and when at last she learnt to speak, she stammered. The other children often made fun of her and mimicked her. As a result, she talked very little.

Ramlal had seven children — three sons and four daughters, and the youngest of them was Bholi. It was a prosperous farmer's household and there was plenty to eat and drink. All the children except Bholi were healthy and strong. The sons had been sent to the city to study in schools and later in colleges. Of the daughters, Radha, the eldest, had already been married. The second daughter Mangla's marriage had also been settled, and when that was done, Ramlal would think of the third, Champa. They were good-looking, healthy girls, and it was not difficult to find bridegrooms for them.

But Ramlal was worried about Bholi. She had neither good looks nor intelligence.

Bholi was seven years old when Mangla was married. The same year a primary school for girls was opened in their village. The *Tehsildar sahib* came to perform its opening ceremony. He said to Ramlal, "As a revenue official you are the representative of the government in the village and so you must set an example to the villagers. You must send your daughters to school."

That night when Ramlal consulted his wife, she cried, "Are you crazy? If girls go to school, who will marry them?"

But Ramlal had not the courage to disobey the *Tehsildar*. At last his wife said, "I will tell you what to do. Send Bholi to school. As it is, there is little chance of her getting married, with her ugly face and lack of sense. Let the teachers at school worry about her."

The next day Ramlal caught Bholi by the hand and said, "Come with me. I will take you to school." Bholi was frightened. She did not know what a school was like. She remembered how a few days ago their old cow, Lakshmi, had been turned out of the house and sold.

"N-n-n-n NO, no-no-no," she shouted in terror and pulled her hand away from her father's grip.

"What's the matter with you, you fool?" shouted Ramlal. "I am only taking you to school." Then he told his wife, "Let her wear some decent clothes today, or else what will the teachers and the other schoolgirls think of us when they "see her?"

New clothes had never been made for Bholi. The old dresses of her sisters were

passed on to her. No one cared to mend or wash her clothes. But today she was lucky to receive a clean dress which had shrunk after many washings and no longer fitted Champa. She was even bathed and oil was rubbed into her dry and matted hair. Only then did she begin to believe that she was being taken to a place better than her home!

Notes



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 25.1

- A. 1. What incident made Bholi a backward child?
- 2 At what age did Bholi have an attack of small pox? What was its effect on her looks?
- 3 Why did Bholi talk very little? Give two reasons.
- 4 What kind of farmer Ramlal was? What was his worry about Bholi.
- 5 Why did the Tehsildar ask Ramlal to send his daughters to school? Give two reasons.
- 6 Why Ramlal's wife disagreed when he consulted her for sending Bholi to school?
- 7 How finally Ramlal's wife agreed to send Bholi to school?
- 8 Why Bholi felt frightened at the idea of being taken to school? Give two reasons.
- 9 New clothes had never been made for Bholi. The old dresses of her sisters were passed on to her. What light does this statement reflect about her parents behaviour.

### B. Activity

You noticed your younger brother mimicking his friend (who limps) and making fun of him. Write a paragraph in about 100 words to make him understand that it was not desirable. You may use the following clues:

- it can happen to any body,
- he cant help it.
- it will hurt him emotionally and move his self confidence.

### C. Inferential questions

1. Pickup the relevant facts from the unit which suggest that the society was against girls education.



2. Pickup two examples from the unit that suggest discriminatory behaviour of Bholi's parents.
3. Going to school was turning point in Bholi's life. Elaborate the statement with examples from the story

## 25.2 SECTION II

A girl who had not heard the name of school or who did not know what a school was and who felt terrified to go to school developed attachment with the school. How did it happen? Read the second unit of the story.

When they reached the school, the children were already in their classrooms. Ramlal handed over his daughter to the headmistress. Left alone, the poor girl looked about her with fear-laden eyes. There were several rooms, and in each room girls like her squatted on mats, reading from books or writing on slates. The headmistress asked Bholi to sit down in a corner in one of the classrooms.

Bholi did not know what exactly a school was like and what happened there, but she was glad to find so many girls almost of her own age present there. She hoped that one of these girls might become her friend.

The lady teacher who was in the class was saying something to the girls but Bholi could understand nothing. She looked at the pictures on the wall. The colours fascinated her—the horse was brown just like the horse on which the *Tehsildar* had come to visit their village; the goat was black like the goat of their neighbour; the parrot was green like the parrots she had seen in the mango orchard; and the cow was just like their Lakshmi. And suddenly Bholi noticed that the teacher was standing by her side, smiling at her.

“What’s your name, little one?”

“Bh-Bho-Bho.” She could stammer no further than that.

Then she began to cry and tears flowed from her eyes in a helpless flood. She kept her head down as she sat in her corner, not daring to look up at the girls who, she knew, were still laughing at her.

When the school bell rang, all the girls scurried out of the classroom, but Bholi dared not leave her corner. Her head still lowered, she kept on sobbing.

“Bholi.”

The teacher’s voice was so soft and soothing! In all her life she had never been called like that. It touched her heart.

"Get up," said the teacher. It was not a command, but just a friendly suggestion. Bholi got up.

"Now tell me your name."

Sweat broke out over her whole body. Would her stammering tongue again disgrace her? For the sake of this kind woman, however, she decided to make an effort. She had such a soothing voice; she would not laugh at her.

"Bh-Bh-Bho-Bho," she began to stammer.

"Well done, well done," the teacher encouraged her. "Come on, now — the full name?"

"Bh-Bh-Bho-Bholi." At last she was able to say it and felt relieved as if it was a great achievement.

"Well done." The teacher patted her affectionately and said, "Put the fear out of your heart and you will be able to speak like everyone else."

Bholi looked up as if to ask, "Really?"

"Yes, yes, it will be very easy. You just come to school every day. Will you come?" Bholi nodded. "No, say it aloud."

"Ye-Ye-Yes." And Bholi herself was astonished that she had been able to say it.

"Didn't I tell you? Now take this book."

The book was full of nice pictures and the pictures were in colour — dog, cat, goat, horse, parrot, tiger and a cow just like Lakshmi. And with every picture was a word in big black letters.

"In one month you will be able to read this book. Then I will give you a bigger book, then a still bigger one. In time you will be more learned than anyone else in the village. Then no one will ever be able to laugh at you. People will listen to you with respect and you will be able to speak without the slightest stammer. Understand? Now go home, and come back early tomorrow morning."

Bholi felt as if suddenly all the bells in the village temple were ringing and the trees in front of the school-house had blossomed into big red flowers. Her heart was throbbing with a new hope and a new life.

Thus the years passed.

**Notes**





Notes



## INTEXT QUESTIONS 25.2

(A) Complete the following sentences:

1. Bholi was taken to school by her father because .....
2. Bholi was ..... when she reached school and saw so many girls of her age.
3. Bholi liked ..... pictures on the wall.
4. The teacher, in the class, asked Bholi .....
5. Bholi stammered and ..... when the teacher talked to her.
6. The teacher's ..... address touched Bholi's heart.
7. She felt relaxed and relieved because .....
8. Bholi could stammer her full name later because .....
9. Bholi was no longer scared of the teacher or anybody else in the class because .....
10. Bholi was assured by the teacher that soon in a month's time she would be able to i) ..... and ii) .....
11. Bholi felt (i) ..... at these assurances of the teacher and she became hopeful of (ii) .....

(B) Find words from the passage which have similar meanings.

- i) sit on one's heels with knees bent up
- ii) frightened
- iii) attracted
- iv) paid attention
- v) examine closely

(C) Here is a table of cause and effect of certain actions and events match them.

<b>Cause</b>	<b>Effect</b>
1. Bholi was nervous.	A. Bholi kept looking at the pictures in the classroom.
2. The teacher assured Bholi that she would get respect from all and she would be the most learned person.	B. Bholi was sweating all over her body.

3. The teacher patted Bholi affectionately.
4. Bholi couldn't understand what the teacher taught.
5. The headmistress had asked her to sit there in the corner.
6. There were many girls of Bholi's age in the class.
7. The teacher asked Bholi to get up in a suggested manner.
8. She feared her stammering tongue would betray and disgrace her again.
9. The teacher was very encouraging and spoke in soothing words.
10. The teacher affectionately patted her.
11. The teacher assured better treatment from people of the village.
- C. Bholi became hopeful of a better tomorrow.
- D. the class girls were laughing at her.
- E. Bholi could overcome her nervousness soon.
- F. Bholi hoped she would make friends with any one of the girls.
- G. Bholi sat in a corner of the class.
- H. Bholi's heart throbbed with new hope for new life.
- I. Bholi had no fear of being laughed at.
- J. Bholi left the corner where she sat for a long time.
- K. Bholi felt cheered up and confident.



Notes

### 25.3 SECTION III

You have read that the simple little girl Bholi who had deep pock marks was regarded as a backward child. Her father sent her to school where she sat in a corner and looked around with fear. The teacher tried to encourage her to speak. Over the years Bholi had learnt a lot and also gained a lot of confidence.

Read the unit III to find out how Bholi showed her confidence and her decision making faculty.

The village became a small town. The little primary school became a high school. There were now a cinema under a tin shed and a cotton ginning mill. The mail train began to stop at their railway station.

One night, after dinner, Ramlal said to his wife, "Then, shall I accept Bishamber's proposal?"

"Yes, certainly," his wife said. "Bholi will be lucky to get such a well-to-do bridegroom. A big shop, a house of his own and I hear several thousand in the bank. Moreover, he is not asking for any dowry."

"That's right, but he is not so young, you know — almost the same age as I am — and he also limps. Moreover, the children from his first wife are quite grown up."



## Notes

“So what does it matter?” his wife replied. “Forty-five or fifty—it is no great age for a man. We are lucky that he is from another village and does not know about her pock-marks and her lack of sense. If we don’t accept this proposal, she may remain unmarried all her life.”

“Yes, but I wonder what Bholi will say.”

“What will that witless one say? She is like a dumb cow.”

“May be you are right,” muttered Ramlal.

In the other corner of the courtyard, Bholi lay awake on her cot, listening to her parents’ whispered conversation.

Bishamber Nath was a well-to-do grocer. He came with a big party of friends and relations with him for the wedding. A brass-band playing a popular tune from an Indian film headed the procession, with the bridegroom riding a decorated horse. Ramlal was overjoyed to see such pomp and splendour. He had never dreamt that his fourth daughter would have such a grand wedding. Bholi’s elder sisters who had come for the occasion were envious of her luck.

When the auspicious moment came the priest said, “Bring the bride.”

Bholi, clad in a red silken bridal dress, was led to the bride’s place near the sacred fire.

“Garland the bride,” one of his friends prompted Bishamber Nath.

The bridegroom lifted the garland of yellow marigolds. A woman slipped back the silken veil from the bride’s face. Bishamber took a quick glance. The garland remained poised in his hands. The bride slowly pulled down the veil over her face.

“Have you seen her?” said Bishamber to the friend next to him “She has pock-marks on her face.”

“So what? You are not young either.”

“May be. But if I am to marry her, her father must give me five thousand rupees.”

Ramlal went and placed his turban — his honour — at Bishamber’s feet. “Do not humiliate me so. Take two thousand rupees.”

“No. Five thousand, or we go back. Keep your daughter.”

“Be a little considerate, please. If you go back, I can never show my face in the village.”

“Then out with five thousand.”

Tears streaming down his face, Ramlal went in, opened the safe and counted out the notes. He placed the bundle at the bridegroom’s feet.

On Bishamber's greedy face appeared a triumphant smile. He had gambled and won. "Give me the garland," he announced.

Once again the veil was slipped back from the bride's face, but this time her eyes were not downcast. She was looking up, looking straight at her prospective husband, and in her eyes there was neither anger nor hate, only cold contempt.

Bishamber raised the garland to place it round the bride's neck; but before he could do so, Bholi's hand struck out like a streak of lightning and the garland was flung into the fire. She got up and threw away the veil.

"*Pitaji!*" said Bholi in a clear loud voice; and her father, mother, sisters, brothers, relations and neighbours were startled to hear her speak without even the slightest stammer.

"*Pitaji!*" Take back your money. I am not going to marry this man."

Ramlal was thunderstruck. The guests began to whisper, "So shameless! So ugly and so shameless!"

"Bholi, are you crazy?" shouted Ramlal. "You want to disgrace your family? Have some regard for our *izzat*!"

"For the sake of your *izzat*," said Bholi, "I was willing to marry this lame old man. But I will not have such a mean, greedy and contemptible coward as my husband. I won't, I won't, I won't."

"What a shameless girl! We all thought she was a harmless dumb cow."

Bholi turned violently on the old woman, "Yes, Aunty, you are right. You all thought I was a dumb-driven cow. That's why you wanted to hand me over to this heartless creature. But now the dumb cow, the stammering fool, is speaking. Do you want to hear more?"

Bishamber Nath, the grocer, started to go back with his party. The confused bandsmen thought this was the end of the ceremony and struck up a closing song.

Ramlal stood rooted to the ground, his head bowed low with the weight of grief and shame.

The flames of the sacred fire slowly died down. Everyone was gone. Ramlal turned to Bholi and said, "But what about you, no one will ever marry you now. What shall we do with you?"

And Sulekha said in a voice that was calm and steady, "Don't you worry, *Pitaji!* In your old age I will serve you and Mother and I will teach in the same school where I learnt so much. Isn't that right, Ma'am?"



Notes



The teacher had all along stood in a corner, watching the drama. “Yes, Bholi, of course,” she replied. And in her smiling eyes was the light of a deep satisfaction that an artist feels when he contemplates the completion of his masterpiece.

- K.A. Abbas



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 25.3

1. State whether the statements given below are True (T) or False (F):
  - (a) The village did not change at all.
  - (b) Ramlal’s wife was in a hurry to marry off Bholi to anyone.
  - (c) Ramlal was reluctant to get Bholi married to Bishamber.
  - (d) On seeing the grand wedding Bholi’s sister envied Bholi’s luck.
  - (e) Bholi’s father readily gave Rs. 5,000/- to the bridegroom.
  - (f) In the end the dumb cow Bholi had gathered enough courage to face any difficulty.
2. Tick the right choice. Bishmaber had asked for Rs. 5,000/- because:
  - (a) he did not want to marry Bholi.
  - (b) he wanted to humiliate Bholi.
  - (c) he had gambled and won.
  - (d) he urgently needed some money.
3. Tick the right answer. Bholi’s decision not to marry Bishamber showed that she was now:
  - (a) shameless and ill-mannered.
  - (b) bold and confident.
  - (c) a dumb and harmless cow.
  - (d) sharp and rude.
4. What changes came over the village in a few years?
5. How was Bishamber a well to do bridegroom?
6. Why did Bholi’s mother not consult Bholi for her marriage?
7. What condition did Bishamber lay down to marry Bholi and why?

8. Why did Bholi refuse to marry Bishamber?
9. There was a light of deep satisfaction in the teacher's eyes. Why?
10. Find words from the passage which mean the same as under:
  - (a) of good omen
  - (b) jealous
  - (c) victorious
  - (d) despicable
  - (e) to consider
11. Given below are the events in a jumbled form. Rewrite them in order as they occur in the story.
  - (a) Bishamber refused to marry Bholi and demanded money.
  - (b) The marriage was a show of great pomp and splendour.
  - (c) The teacher felt a deep satisfaction on seeing Bholi as a bold and confident girl.
  - (d) The bandsmen got confused and struck up a closing song.
  - (e) Bishamber was considered a well to do bridegroom for Bholi by her parents.
  - (f) Bholi confidently told her father to take back the money and refused to marry Bishamber.
  - (g) A great transformation had taken over the village.
  - (h) The guests called Bholi shameless and a disgrace to the family.

Notes

## GRAMMAR

Describing words: Adjectives

Read the describing words given below:

- a. small town.
- b. well-to-do bridegroom
- c. big shop
- d. dumb cow
- e. decorated house

Notice that all the above words describe the underlined words. They tell us something more about them. So, these words are called describing words or adjectives.



Notes

Lets read some more examples of describing words from the lesson ‘Bholi’.

- a. grand wedding
- b. suspicious moment
- c. red silken bridal dress
- d. sacred fire
- e. greedy face

1. List out some more describing words from Unit III.
2. Complete the passage given below with adjectives given in the box:

perfect	happy	pleasant	luxury	enjoyable
cloudy	content	green	clear	nearby
quiet	delicious			

It was a \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ day. A \_\_\_\_ day to go out for a picnic. We decided to book a \_\_\_\_ bus and go to the \_\_\_\_ lake. The lake was full of \_\_\_\_ water and the \_\_\_\_ meadows were an added attraction. Many picnickers had surrounded the place but we managed to get a \_\_\_\_ place near the trees. The \_\_\_\_ food was a pleasure to eat. We returned \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ after an \_\_\_\_ picnic.

### 3. Word Formation

Look at the table given below. The words appear in the I<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> unit of the lesson ‘Bholi’. Notice the word transformation. Some words (nouns) have been transformed to verbs and some to adjectives.

Noun	Verb	Adjectives
intelligence	-	intelligent
ceremony		ceremonial, ceremonious
consultation	consult	
courage		courageous
fascination	fascinate	
suggestion	suggeste	
achievement	achieve	
encouragement	encourage	
affection	affectionate	
astonishment	astonish	

4. Transform the nouns given below in verbs and vice versa:

Nouns	Verbs
a. Conversation	_____
b. _____	humiliate
c. Consideration	_____
d. _____	announce
e. Satisfaction	_____
f. _____	contemplate
g. Completion	_____



## OVERALL QUESTIONS

1. Bholi's meeting with her teacher was a turning point in her life. From then on there was no looking back. She bloomed into a thinking individual with self esteem and decision-making skills. Illustrate this with examples from the story.
2. Society is by and large insensitive to a person who does not fit into its concept of 'normal'. Illustrate this with reference to Bholi's situation.
3. Do you think Bholi would have had a better childhood if her parents had been suitably advised or counseled? Discuss, mentioning her parents attitude and general treatment given to her.

## VOCABULARY ENRICHMENT

1. Fill in the blanks with suitable words given in the brackets.

Bholi suffered \_\_\_\_\_ (disfigure, disfigurement) following a bout of small pox. As a results she became withdrawn and spoke very seldom. When she did speak it was with a \_\_\_\_\_ (stammer, stammering) and children mimicked her. This \_\_\_\_\_ (mimic, mimicking) and \_\_\_\_\_ (humiliate, humiliation) prevented her \_\_\_\_\_ (grow, growth).

Then she met her teacher who treated Bholi with \_\_\_\_\_ (understand, understanding) and spoke to her as to an \_\_\_\_\_ (intelligence, intelligent) person. She provided her with a book to read and a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ (encourage, encouragement). As a result she lost her fear and blossomed into a self confident girl. This was her \_\_\_\_\_ (triumph, triumphant) over her short coming.



Notes



Notes

2. Read the following sentences and complete them using the correct form of the words given below.

disgrace	terror	disobey	respect	place
suggest	consider	contempt	achieve	satisfy

1. Making fun of others and calling their names is \_\_\_\_\_ behaviour. We must learn to \_\_\_\_\_ the individuality of persons and treat no one in a \_\_\_\_\_ manner.
2. Hard work and perseverance can help anyone to earn a \_\_\_\_\_ in society.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is looked upon as a serious offence in the army. No \_\_\_\_\_ is shown towards a rule breaker.
4. I was \_\_\_\_\_ of the dark. My friend \_\_\_\_\_ that I should overcome my fear by practising stepping into a familiar dark \_\_\_\_\_ to begin with. I think his \_\_\_\_\_ has helped me in controlling this \_\_\_\_\_ of the dark that I had.
5. As I look back at my \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ I remember my teacher who showed me the right direction.

## GRAMMAR

### Simple Past and Past Perfect Tense

1. In each of the following sentences two sets of events are given. Read these and complete the table as indicated.

- a) Bholi was given a dress which her sister had discarded.
- b) When the teacher came up to Bholi, all the girls had left.
- c) Bholi went to school after her father had been advised by the Tehsildar.
- d) The teacher was worried because Bholi had not spoken a single word.
- e) Bholi decided not to marry Bishamber after he had demanded extra money from her father.

No.	Event that happened first	Event that happened later
a.	...sister had discarded her dress	Bholi was given the (same) dress...
b.		
c.		
d.		
e.		

The verbs under the first heading ‘Events that took place first’ are in the Past Perfect Tense (had + Past Participle). The tense acquires meaning and perspective when it is contrasted with simple Past Tense (in column 2)

2. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the words given in brackets.
  - a. When the authorities \_\_\_\_\_ (wake up), most of the forest \_\_\_\_\_ (disappear).
  - b. Children in that village \_\_\_\_\_ (be) healthy because their parents \_\_\_\_\_ (taken care) of their immunization.
  - c. I \_\_\_\_\_ (can) decide quickly since my teacher \_\_\_\_\_ (teach) me how to take conscious decisions, way back in school.
  - d. Everyone \_\_\_\_\_ (appreciate) the lovely painting that she \_\_\_\_\_ (make)
  - e. We \_\_\_\_\_ (run) outside to look at the new car uncle \_\_\_\_\_ (buy)
  - f. My aunt \_\_\_\_\_ (like) the sweater I \_\_\_\_\_ (knit) for her.
3. Look at the situations and complete the sentences below
  - a. A: When \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ the film?  
B: I saw it last week.
  - b. A: \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ to the police?  
B: I was afraid to do so.
  - c. A: \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ for your holiday.  
B: Oh, we went to Kashmir.
  - d. A: \_\_\_\_\_ the principal \_\_\_\_\_ you?  
B: He told me to be careful in future.
  - e. A: \_\_\_\_\_ you last \_\_\_\_\_ your medicines?  
B: About an hour back.
4. Look at these sentences. They present the negative form of Past tense. For example: They were not worried about the examination so they did not study. Complete the sentences below:
  - a. You were sleeping so deeply when I came in, so I \_\_\_\_\_ (not disturb) you.
  - b. It was raining the whole day, so I \_\_\_\_\_ (not go) out.

Notes





Notes

- c. Sumeet was deeply hurt by Rekha's word, so he \_\_\_\_\_ (not attend) her party.
- d. The man looked suspicious, so Deepak \_\_\_\_\_ (not let) him enter the house.
- e. The road looked very crowded, so I \_\_\_\_\_ (not take) it. I took a different route.

## COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage and answer questions that follow:

Do you remember the arguments that you had with your parents during adolescence? How you disagreed on various issues? You must have expected to be treated as a 'grown up', to be allowed to take your own decisions, to be given more freedom, and so on and your parents may have refused. You must have resented the restraints imposed by them. You must have not liked your parent's objections to the things that you wanted to do. You may have felt at that time that your parents do not understand you; that they do not love you, and this may have made you feel irritated and miserable.

So, what would you suggest to the parents of adolescents? Yes, first of all, as has been mentioned earlier, they should educate their children about the rapid changes during adolescence; they should appreciate the adolescent's troubled emotional state due to the physical changes and be more tolerant; they should stop treating the adolescent as if she is still a child; they should be understanding, and should be both friends and guides to the adolescent.

Lack of control by parents is also harmful. If parents do not impose any constraints on the adolescents, then they have a tendency to go astray and choose the wrong path, and later become difficult to discipline. Such adolescents feel let down and think that nobody cares for them. Hence some discipline from parents is necessary.

The kind of disciplinary techniques that parents use has a great impact on the adolescent. If parents are very strict and do not give the adolescents a chance to speak on any matter, then the adolescents may go against their wishes. On the other hand, if they would reason out and give the adolescents a chance to express their opinion, adolescents would also listen to and respect their parents.

1. Read the passage and give it a suitable title.
2. Adolescents like to be treated as \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) children

- b) grown-up
- c) equals
3. The resentment of adolescents stems from their parents \_\_\_\_\_
- refusing to talk to them
  - refusing to advice them
  - putting restrictions on them
4. Many adolescents feel miserable and irritable because they think \_\_\_\_\_
- their parents do not love them
  - their parents do not understand them
  - their parents put too much responsibility on them
5. Parents ought to \_\_\_\_\_
- allow adolescents to go their way
  - impose a strict discipline on adolescent
  - impose a reasonable amount of discipline on adolescent
6. Read the passage again and state whether the following statements are True or False.
- Parents should educate their children about the changes that occur during adolescents.
  - They should treat adolescents as children.
  - When there is not discipline adolescents feel let down.
  - Parents should give a patient hearing to their children and hear their views.
  - Adolescents never listen to reason.
7. Complete these sentences based on your understanding of the text.
- often a clash of \_\_\_\_\_ gives rise to disagreement between adolescents and their parents.
  - Too much of \_\_\_\_\_ affects the adolescents adversely. They might become rebellious.
  - Parents should handle the adolescents with (i) \_\_\_\_\_ and (ii) \_\_\_\_\_. They should act as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - If parents give the adolescents a very long rope they might be in the danger of going (i) \_\_\_\_\_. Hence a bit of (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ is necessary.
  - Adolescents respect parents who give them a chance to express their (i) \_\_\_\_\_. This leads to mutual (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ and (iii) \_\_\_\_\_.

Notes



Notes

8. Answer the following questions by selecting the correct alternatives.
  - a) The text is a factual description/narration.
  - b) The text favours parents/adolescents/none
  - c) The text is in the simple present Tense because it talks of facts/it presents opinions/it narrates events.

### LET'S WRITE

1. Write a case history of a girl child or boy of your locality who was denied the right to education.
2. Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper to express your views how child labour is a waste of human wealth.
3. Write a case history of a boy who had fallen prey to smoking and drugs.

Followup: Prepare a case history of any such case followed by preparing a poster to create awareness against such a practice.



### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS

#### Intext Questions 25.1

1. Bholi had fallen off from the cot and some part of her brain was damaged.
2. Bholi had an attack of small pox when she was only two years old. It left black pock-marks on her whole body only eyes remained intact.
3. Bholi talked very little because she stammered while speaking. She developed inhibition. Secondly she was laughed at and mimicked by the children.
4. Ramlal was a prosperous farmer. He was worried about Bholi's marriage as she had neither good looks nor intelligence.
5. Tehsildar asked Ramlal to send his daughter to school because- a new primary school for girls was opened and new admission were required. Secondly Ramlal being representative of government in the village was expected to get an example before the villagers.
6. Ramlal's wife didn't agree to send her daughters to school because of her apprehension that it would be difficult to get them married off if they were educated.
7. Ramlal's wife suggested him to sent Bholi because- It would satisfy Tehsildar and secondly Bholi being with ugly face and little sense had very little chance

to get married

8. Bholi was frightened at the idea of being taken to school because:
  - (i) she had no idea of what a school is,
  - (ii) She had seen earlier a cow being taken out of the house to be sold.
9. She was neglected and treated as a second grade member in the family. Her needs and emotions were never given any consideration. In other words Bholi's parents had discriminatory attitude towards her.

### **Intext Questions 25.2**

(A)

1. .... The Tehsildar had insisted that his daughter's should be sent to the village school to set an example.
  2. .... Excited/glad
  3. ....colourful ....
  4. ....to get up and tell her name ....
  5. .... Could tell full word ....
  6. .... Soft and soothing ....
  7. ....no one had ever called ....
  8. .... The teacher encouraged her
  9. .... The teacher was kind and sympathetic
  10. (i) read the school book and then she would get bigger books  
(ii) She would be more learned than anyone else in the village/no one would laugh at her/people in the village will speak with respect/she would be able to speak without the slightest stammer.
  11. (i) relaxed/relieved  
(ii) a new life
- (B) i) squat  
ii) fear-laden  
iii) fascinated  
iv) noticed



Notes



- v) look at

## **Intext Questions 25.3**



Grammar

- ### 1. a triumphant smile

- b. a clear loud voice  
 c. greedy and contemptible coward  
 d. harmless dumb cow  
 e. heartless creature  
 f. confused bandsman  
 g. calm and steady voice
2. i) pleasant      ii) cloudy      iii) perfect      iv) luxury  
 v) nearby      vi) clear      vii) green      viii) quiet  
 ix) delicious      x) happy      xi) content      xii) enjoyable
4. a. converse  
 b. humiliation  
 c. considerate  
 d. announcement  
 e. satisfy  
 f. contemplation  
 g. complete

Notes

### Overall Questions

1. • Teacher was the first person who showed her respect as individual.  
 • Earlier she was neglected, treated as dumb cow  
 • Under teacher's guidance read books, learnt and obtained education.  
 • Learnt to be self-reliant and self-confident  
 • Was able to take decisions and did not let anyone push her-even into marriage.
2. A person with a physical/mental shortcoming or a person quiet and withdrawn normally rejected by society.  
 • Bholi's own mother called her names was neglected her. Was unwilling to send her to school.  
 • Her friends mocked at her. People humiliated her. No one interacted with her leading to her insecurity and stammer.  
 • People were outraged to find her speak her mind at her marriage and called her Shameless as if they wanted her to remain suppressed for ever.



Notes

3. Bholi's mother and father too in an indirect way neglected her thinking. She was ugly, dumb and slow. (no bath, old clothes, no interaction).
  - This was partly out of ignorance.
  - Had they been counselled how to make a 'challenged' person's life meaningful they would not have neglected her.
  - It was Tehsildar who stepped in to bring about a change in her life.
  - Her parents needed to be told that even she could achieve in life.

### Vocabulary

- |                  |               |             |               |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. disfigurement | stammer       | mimicking   | humiliation   |
| growth           | understanding | intelligent | encouragement |
|                  | triumph       |             |               |
2. 1. disgraceful, respect, contemptuous.
  2. respectable place
  3. disobedience, consideration
  4. terrified, suggested, place, suggestion, terror
  5. achievements, satisfaction

### Grammar

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Events that happened first                                      | Events that happened later       |
| a) ... sister <u>had discarded</u><br>(her dress)                  | Bholi was given the (same) dress |
| b) ... the girls <u>had left</u><br>(the school)                   | Teacher came up to Bholi         |
| c) ... father <u>had been advised</u><br>by the Tehsildar          | Bholi went to school             |
| d) Bholi <u>had not spoken</u><br>a single word                    | The teacher was worried          |
| e) Bishamber <u>had demanded</u><br>extra money from her<br>father | Bholi decided not to marry him   |
2. a) woke up, had disappeared
  - b) were, had taken care
  - c) could, had taught

- d) appreciated, had made
  - e) van, had bought
  - f) liked, had knitted
3. a) When did you see the film?
- b) Why did you not report to the police?
  - c) Where did you go for your holiday?
  - d) What did the principal tell you?
  - e) When did you last take your medicines.
4. a) did not disturb
- b) did not go
  - c) did not attend
  - d) did not let
  - e) did not take

### Passage for comprehension

1. Any suitable tile carrying the idea about Role of Parents in the life of an adolescent
2. b
3. c
4. b
5. c
6. (a) True  
(b) False  
(c) False  
(d) True  
(e) False
7. (a) ideology  
(b) discipline  
(c) (i) understanding



Notes

**Notes**

- (ii) sympathy  
(iii) friends, guides
- (d) (i) astray  
(ii) control
- (e) (i) emotions/opinions  
(ii) understanding  
(iii) respect
8. (a) narration  
(b) adolescent  
(c) the text is in the simple present tense because it talks of facts.